ESTABLISHED IN 1861

THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

OLDEST BEE-PAPER IN AMERICA

GEORGE W. YORK, Editor. | DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY—TO BEE-CULTURE. | Weekly, $1.00 a Year. Sample Free.

VOL. XXXII. CHICAGO, ILL., AUG. 24, 1893. NO. 8.

"**Mistress Apis,**" dressed in brown,
Markets mostly out of town.
She goes to Clover Fields for honey,
But never pays a cent of money.
Her flour she buys of those who keep
A stock of pollen fresh and cheap
For she must make some good bee-bread,
That many babies may be fed.
She's such a worker! For you see
She is a little honey-bee.
—*Youth's Companion.*

Michigan's Experiment Apiary we are permitted to show to our readers this week, through the kindness of Bro. Hutchinson, who loaned us the engraving. It is found on page 245, in connection with Mr. Taylor's report of the experiments with the Langdon non-swarming attachment.

Mr. J. T. Calvert, the most excellent son-in-law of Bro. A. I. Root (and also manager of their great bee-supply business in Medina, O.), recently paid Bro. Holtermann and the *Canadian Bee Journal* a visit. Mr. Calvert was on a bicycle tour, taking in the glorious Christian Endeavor Convention held at Montreal, Quebec. We shouldn't be surprised to hear that Mr. Calvert, with Bros. A. I. and Ernest Root, were going to the World's Fair on their "wheels," as they are all expert bicyclists. If they do, we'll agree to "wheel" into line our best and truest—welcome.

That Somnambulist has not been sleeping very much of the time the past month or so, is clearly shown by the August *Progressive Bee-Keeper*. Why, he has gone to work and summed up some 20 of the biographical sketches that have appeared in the BEE JOURNAL beginning with Mr. B. Taylor and ending with Master Ralph Benton! You needn't tell us that a person can go Somnambulisting around a very great deal, and also write as much and as entertainingly as does the Somnambulistor under consideration. "Sommy," why not sign your right name occasionally, just for a change?

The Canadian Bee Journal for August is received, and it *is* a *great* improvement over its former self. Why, it shows a vigor and vim that is surprising, and also refreshing. Editor Holtermann takes "holt" as if he meant business, and it now looks as if Canadians were going to have a bee-paper that is not only a credit to the printer's art, but also an honor to the Old Dominion. Here's our editorial ☞, Bro. H., that will give you a hearty shake when you come to the North American convention in October next.

Something for Bostonians.—On page 243 of this issue of the BEE JOURNAL, our good friend, Mr. W. A. Pryal, of California, tells something about a new product that the Golden State is now turning out, and which should very much interest every Bostonian. It is BEAN HONEY! Just think of it—Boston's best brown bread and baked beans, with beautiful bean honey gathered by busy, buzzing bees! Great is the B-business

Photography is the new "hobby" of Bro. Hutchinson. If a bee-keeper don't want to be surprised by his picture appearing in the *Review* hereafter, he'd better keep away from Bro. H. Of course this is all in fun, but, seriously, Bro. Hutchinson is now studying the subject of photography, and no doubt his paper will soon rival Harper's or other illustrated periodicals, in the line of pictures. If Bro. H. was publishing a weekly paper, he'd hardly find time to "monkey" with a camera, or anything else. How we should like to have *time* for recreation of some kind, but *we* will have to be satisfied with the "liking" or "wishing" we had it. It means *work* to get out a weekly paper like the BEE JOURNAL, and always have it "get there" on time. But we are willing to work so long as the subscriptions keep coming in well, and our readers are pleased.

Bros. Whitcomb and Kretchmer favored us with a call on Saturday, Aug. 12th. The former has charge of the Nebraska State apiarian exhibit at the World's Fair, and the latter that of Iowa. They are both grand, good men, and will see to it that their respective States are well up to the front in the way of a honey exhibit. Bro. Whitcomb is the editor and publisher of the *Telegraph*, at Friend, Nebr., and Bro. Kretchmer is well-known as an excellent bee-supply manufacturer and dealer at Red Oak, Iowa.

Mr. B. Taylor, in the *Farm, Stock and Home* for August, says that at the end of the white honey season, he removes all surplus honey from the hives, crates the finished sections, and extracts the partly-filled and uncapped combs. The extracted honey thus obtained is, if cured properly, of the highest grade for table use, and sells for nearly the price of comb honey if customers are made acquainted with its high excellence.

The sections containing the empty combs he returns to the supers, and some pleasant afternoon sets them all out without covers, so the bees can get at them without hindrance, and clean the combs of every drop of adhering honey. In the evening, after the bees have ceased to fly, the cases are carried and stored into the bee-proof honey-house. A "handy comb-leveler" is then brought into use, and the combs leveled to even thickness, and set carefully away for next year. By the use of prepared combs he is quite sure he can double the white honey crop.

The hives, after the honey is removed, will have an extra hive containing either frames of drawn combs, or full sheets of brood foundation, placed on top of each colony to be filled with dark fall honey. There should be a queen-excluding honey-board placed between the brood-chamber and these hives, so no brood can be started in them. He keeps the honey thus obtained for feeding and rearing an army of bees in time for next year's clover and basswood season.

The Daughter of Mr. J. E. Frith, Secretary of the Oxford Bee-Keepers' Association, living at Princeton, Ont., died suddenly shortly after having received a bee-sting on the temple. Mr. Frith is well known among Canadian apiarists, and will have the heartfelt sympathy of bee-keepers everywhere, in this sudden bereavement.

Mr. S. H. Clark, of Elwood, Iowa, we learn from the *Maquoketa*, (Iowa) *Record*, conducts the post-office in Elwood, having held his position since President Arthur's administration. Besides this, he is one of the most successful bee-keepers in his county. Why wouldn't keeping a post-office go well with bee-keeping? Dr. Mason tried it awhile, and it seemed to work all right—but the bees were more certain stayers than the post-office. Perhaps because the bees were not subject to political influence.

Apiarian Experiment Stations.—We have received the following from Dr. Miller in reference to this important subject, now being discussed in the bee-papers. Read it, and if you think you have anything of value to present, send it in. Here is what the Doctor says:

FRIEND YORK:—I'm glad to see you interested in the matter of experiment stations for bee-keepers. The *Review* has given us a fine leader on the subject, and I hope it will keep stirred up. You can't make out from that sentence whether I want the *Review* or the subject of experiment stations kept stirred up, so I'll say I mean both.

I am in accord with you in the view that it is not best to have a station for each State. If two States are about alike as

bee-keeping States, instead of having a station in each, thus doubling the expense, it would be better to have one, and let a little more money be spent on that one than would be spent on each one separately, if there were two.

But there are a good many things to be considered before settling down upon any given number of stations in the United States as the most desirable. In the first place, we must do as we can. Legislatures are not always easily handled just as one would wish, and it may be that an appropriation can be had in some of the States and not in others. We should be willing to take whatever we can get, and not always insist too strenuously on what we would like. If bee-keepers had insisted that Michigan should unite with three or four neighboring States in establishing the station now in existence, it is just possible that the effort would have failed, whereas by having it a purely State institution it was obtained.

A single experiment station for the whole of the United States could be made of great value, if rightly conducted. Indeed, I am not sure that a one-horse affair in each of the States would be as useful as to put all the money into the one now under the control of Friend Taylor, so that he could devote his whole time to it, employ all the assistance needed, and go into experiments to the fullest extent upon every unsettled point of importance. Upon many points experiments in one State would be equally conclusive for all. If experiments were needed to prove that eggs are laid by queens, and not drones, it would hardly matter whether such experiments were made in Maine or Texas.

As to many things, however, conclusions reached in one section would not be of very great value in another. I am not specially interested in determining the value of some Southern honey-plant which I could get to live only in a green-house, however valuable it might be to some one in Florida. And when you come to plant stations in different localities, basing the locations on the difference of localities, it is a little doubtful if four or five would be found enough. Possibly one or more head stations might do to work out general problems pertaining to locality.

There is an advantage in having more than one station that is not to be despised, even although nothing but general problems are to be solved. It is that a series of experiments conducted at one place might have some element of error about them that would not exist in a series conducted at a different station, and thus one station be a check upon another. Besides, a larger number of experiments is often more conclusive than a smaller one, no matter how carefully made.

In two important respects the station of Michigan has set the right pace. First, it has at its head a genuine bee-keeper, and not a man who has never before been heard of as such. Second, the head of the station is in close touch with bee-keepers, communicating directly and constantly with them through the medium of bee-journals obtainable by all, and not obliged to wait and make out a report to someone else, a report which bee-keepers cannot readily obtain.

I may as well own up that I have no very fully matured plan as to just what a bee-keeping station should be and do, beyond the thought that it should help to solve the thousand and one questions that are constantly coming up, and that individual men are now trying to solve for themselves at great cost and inconvenience. But it will do no harm for us to talk the matter over. Michigan has done a grand thing. If all the States should chip in and make the Michigan establishment a national one on a broader basis, it would be greatly to our advantage. If, on the other hand, three other, or a dozen other, like concerns should be started, that would be a thing of great advantage. Keep the ball rolling, and let us hope good will come of it in some direction. C. C. MILLER.

Care of Honey and Combs.—Hon. R. L. Taylor, in the *Bee-Keepers' Review*, gave the following directions for the keeping of comb honey, which it will be well to heed:

After the honey is off the hive, it is highly important that it should be well cared for. I pile it up on end, that is, put the cases on end so as to be fully open to the circulation of the air in a warm, dry room—the warmer and drier the better, so that it is not warm enough to cause the wax to yield. Unless one allows the wax-moth to breed extensively about the premises, I think there need be no fear of its doing injury to the comb honey. I never knew any injury from this cause when disposed as I have indicated above.

I consider it important also that it be allowed to remain in the cases until it is to be put on the market. It is better there than inclosed in shipping-crates, besides the comb is more liable to injury than when it becomes thoroughly ripened, and the weather somewhat cooler.

It is always timely in warm weather to utter a warning against the danger of injury to combs from the wax-moth. They may be safely kept for a time in a very cool cellar. If kept where it is warm they must be kept separated an inch or more, and where the air has free circulation, but on hives where bees can care for them, is the best place of all.

Honey as Food and Medicine is just the thing so help sell honey, as it shows the various ways in which honey may be used as a food and as a medicine. Try 100 copies of it, and see what good "salesmen" they are. See the third page of this number of the BEE JOURNAL for description and prices.

STRAY STINGS *From— The Stinger.*

"Next cum along wuz little Miss Bee—um, hum!
She cum roight from her hoive—bee-gum!"
Sings Pat as cheerily on he goes,
Till pretty Miss Bee alights on his nose.
"Phat's that?" cries Pat. "Oh! Ouch! Begorry!
If that's your kiss, for your feller Oime sorry!"

The Chinese are said to give the bees a wide berth in California. The little insects must have said, "The Chinese must go."

Mrs. Jennie Atchley is trying hard to be the big queen-bee in the great hive of apicultural economists. But none of the males in the same colony want the distinction of being the biggest drone. Just see what there is in a name, sometimes!

Why don't some enterprising bee-keeper of a literary turn of mind get out a little volume of all the meritorious poetry that was ever written about the honey-bee? It seems to me that such a book should have sufficient sale to warrant its publication.

I would like to know what New York is going to do when the Fair is over with all that comb honey she has piled up in those cases in the apiarian section in the Agricultural Building? Will she send it to California, in order to show that State by the Pacific what a great honey-producing country the Empire State is? If she does, won't it be hard on the apiarists of the Golden West who were misrepresented by their State Commissioners?

It has long been supposed that millers ground out flour, but the Miller of *Gleanings in Bee-Culture* reverses the operation and grinds out straws. If the good Doctor got a little further down the straw he would have been able to use roots in his grist-mill. It is a long way, comparatively speaking, from the head of the straw to the roots, and, perhaps, the Doctor chose the medium instead of the extremes, at the same time hoping to work toward the ends. If this be so, we would like to know which he proposes to grind first, the Roots or the "Heads of Grain!"

"**Bees and Honey**"—see page 250.

MR. L. WOOLVERTON.

We have been requested by one of his many good friends, to present in our biographical department Mr. Linus Woolverton, M. A., the popular and efficient Secretary of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario, Canada, and also the able editor of the *Canadian Horticulturist*. Mr. W. deserves the thanks of all bee-keepers, for, having carefully studied the subject, he knows that bee-keeping and horticulture have much to bind them together.

In the journal of which Mr. Woolverton is editor, there is a department for those engaged in fruit-culture who are also interested in bee-keeping. In that department articles have appeared from the pen of such well-known Canadian bee-keepers as R. McKnight, of Owen Sound; S. Corneil, of Lindsay; and R. F. Holtermann, of Brantford, the new and genial editor of the *Canadian Bee Journal*. Mr. Holtermann recently had in the *Canadian Horticulturist* an illustrated article, six pages in length, upon the benefit the bees confer through fertilization of flowers.

Mr. Woolverton, we may say further, has charge of the Canadian fruit department at the Columbian Exposition. He can be found at almost all times of the day in the Horticultural Building on the Fair Grounds.

The following biography was written some time since for the *Canadian Horticulturist*, where it appeared in connection with a picture of Mr. W., all of which we take pleasure in reproducing for the benefit of our readers:

Mr. Linus Woolverton was born on Dec. 12, 1846, at Grimsby, Ont. The family of Woolvertons to which he belongs, is one of the oldest of this early settled Niagara district, and trace their family history back through 200 years to England, where there are still found several places of the name. His father, Mr. C. E. Woolverton, who had himself received his education at Madison University, New York State, so highly valued university advantages, that he spared no pains to give his son a thorough college training. This course was fully appreciated by the son, whose thirst for knowledge and love of books has always been one of his leading characteristics.

After due preparation at Grimsby High School, and one year at the Uni-

L. WOOLVERTON, M. A.

versity at Rochester, he entered the University College at Toronto, taking the first scholarship ($120) ever taken at senior matriculation, in the department of classics. During this course at the University, he gave much attention to th e study of natural science, and this has been of the utmost advantage in later years to him in his horticultural pursuits. In due time he was granted the degrees of B. A., in 1869, and M. A., in 1870. His first thought then was to pursue the study of law, and, with this in view, he entered a law office in Toronto, and spent a portion of the winter of 1869–70 in legal studies.

In October, 1870, he married Miss S. F. Lorimer, daughter of the late Rev. A. Lorimer, B. A., then Librarian of the University of Toronto. For a term of 15 years after graduation, he held the position of examiner in Classics and English at Woodstock College—a position he felt obliged to relinquish on accepting the work of Secretary of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario.

Just about this time Mr. A. M. Smith's retirement from partnership in the nursery business with Mr. W.'s father, made an opening for the son to come into his place, and carry on a business to which he had already given some attention. The business was largely local, and no agents were employed, as the demand for nursery stock in this fruit section was at that time very considerable.

After a few years Mr. Woolverton became so enamored with fruit-growing, that he resolved to quit the nursery business and give his whole attention to the former; and, with the consent of his father, who gave up the whole farm to his management on the most generous basis, also deeding him a portion of it, he gradually planted out 100 acres in fruit-trees. This farm is known as "Maplehurst Fruit Farm," and is one of the largest of its kind in Ontario; certainly no other has such a large variety of fruits of every sort under test. In grapes alone there are about 90 varieties, strawberries about 50, and a large collection of cherries, pears, apples, peaches, plums, etc.; and here is where the practical experience is gained, necessary for the proper and intelligent conduct of a horticultural journal. It was the consideration of his practical experience in horticulture, combined with his educational advantages, that led the Board of Directors of the Fruit Growers' Association to give him the appointment of Secretary and Editor, on the retirement of Mr. D. W. Beadle, the former Secretary.

The management of this fruit farm requires much attention, and would engross one's whole time; but, by engaging a competent foreman, Mr. Woolverton has been enabled to give almost his whole time to Association work.

For many years previous to his appointment as Secretary, he was a regular attendant upon the meetings of the Assocation, having been present at Hamilton as a boy at some of the very first meetings, and almost regularly ever since. As a writer, he was among the early prize essayists of the Association, as will be seen by consulting some of the older reports; and to the earlier volumes of the *Canadian Horticulturist* he contributed a series of articles, entitled, "Horticultural Gossip."

In 1885 he also wrote a series of

articles for the *Canadian Farmer*, entitled, "Seasonable Hints for Fruit Growers;" and in 1886, a series for the *Farmers' Advocate*, entitled, "Hints for Amateur Fruit Growers." Last year he wrote an essay for the Hamilton Scientific Association, (entitled, "Some Problems in Horticulture," dealing especially with the fungi affecting fruits), a body of which he had previously been made a corresponding member. Three years ago he was elected Vice-President for Ontario of the American Pomological Society, to whose report he has contributed considerable matter.

Lately, through the legacy from a relative, Mr. Woolverton has been enabled to build a beautiful house, in which the *Horticulturist* has, for the present, a convenient and suitable home. The office occupies one of the principal rooms on the ground floor, while the large attic is stored with back numbers, bound volumes, reports, electrotypes, etc., the property of the Association. A.

GENERAL QUESTIONS.

In this department will be answered those questions needing IMMEDIATE attention, and such as are not of sufficient special interest to require replies from the 25 or more apiarists who help to make "Queries and Replies" so interesting on another page. In the main, it will contain questions and answers upon matters that particularly interest beginners.—ED.

Supposed Trouble with Bees.

I have one colony of bees that lived through our last hard winter, although they suffered a great loss. They seemed to do extremely well until July 1st. As at that time its hive was packed full of honey and young bees, and had not swarmed then, I put on some small boxes. They went to work immediately in them, and in a few days had some filled. Then they cast a very large swarm, which I hived all right, but the old swarm stopped working in the small boxes, only to carry out what they had put there, and up to date have not done any more, nor have they swarmed again. I am a beginner, and would like to know the trouble.

I find a great many things in the bee-papers that I do not have to ask for, but I would like to ask, Are all bee-keepers troubled with the bees filling between the tops of the brood-frames so that the comb has to be broken if the brood-frames are removed?

Also, does smoking bees so as to remove the frames stop their working for any length of time?

I have one hive in use that has an entrance at the top of the frames, and also at the bottom, but the bees use the top entrance most. Is this a good kind of hive? E. H. HALLETT.

St. Johnsbury Centre, Vt., July 31.

ANSWERS.—The trouble with your bees is not, as you suppose, something out of the usual line. It is in the usual course, and just what you may always expect under similar circumstances. Your colony did "exceedingly well" up to the time of swarming, and then did poorly after swarming, just because it had swarmed. You see, swarming took away its strong force, reducing it to the condition of a very weak colony, and then it did just what you might expect from a very weak colony. If you could, by some conjuring, have persuaded it to have abstained from swarming, you might have had a continuance of its good work in storing surplus honey.

A division of forces, as made by swarming, seems not to have been a desirable thing in your case. It is exceedingly difficult, according to the testimony of nearly all bee-keepers, to keep the whole force of bees at work in the old hive, once they have taken a notion to swarm. Failing in this, the next best thing is to try to get as much of the force as possible into the new hive containing the swarm. This you can do by putting the swarm on the old stand at the time of swarming, removing the old hive a few feet away. Then all the old bees that have been left in the mother hive, when they go to the fields for plunder, will, on their return, fly back to the old stand, making the swarm very strong, and the old colony correspondingly weak. Put supers from the old hive on the swarm at once, and let the old colony build up at its leisure.

In reply to your second question, the probability is that all bee-keepers are more or less troubled with the nuisance of brace or burr combs, unless they take some steps to prevent it. The first thing that seemed to offer any relief in the case was that slat honey-board, invented by James Heddon. In spite of the expense of the honey-board, and the dauby nuisance whenever it was lifted from over the top-bars, it was a real boon, well deserving thanks to the inventor. Later, immunity from trouble was claimed by using one or more precautions. J. B. Hall, an able Canadian

bee-keeper, succeeded by having top-bars an inch thick. Others claimed success, by having a small space, hardly ¼ inch between the sections and top-bars. Fair success may be had by means of this small space in connection with a top-bar not less than ⅝-inch thick. A thickness of ⅞-inch may be better. Possibly the space between each top-bar and its neighbor may have some bearing in the case.

Smoking bees certainly stops their work to some extent, but not for any length of time, as you may readily see by noticing how soon they will fly out to work after the disturbance ceases.

It probably makes no great difference where the entrance to a hive is. Bee-keepers in general prefer an entrance at the bottom, one reason being that it makes it so much easier for bees to carry out dead bees, or other refuse.

Which is the Best Hive?

I am very desirous to know which is considered the best kind of hive for one running a large apiary in this part of the world. I got hold of Heddon's book, "Success in Bee-Culture," and was enraptured with the description, etc., of his new hive, and at once wrote to three or four bee-supply dealers in England for estimates for some of the Heddon hives. Imagine my astonishment (after the way in which Mr. Heddon lauds his hive, quoting the opinions of old and established bee-keepers in America in its favor) at receiving such replies as the following:

"We must refuse to make the Heddon hive here; it was such a grand failure in this country when introduced, and so many of us lost money by it, that we do not care to touch it again."

So says *one* of our English firms. Another firm writes:

"The Heddon hive, to my mind, is a failure. I tried it. But give me the orthodox brood-nest and surplus chambers; and so seemed to say American and British alike, as I should say not ½ per cent. of those combined work *a la* Heddon,"

What does Mr. Heddon say to this? and what is the opinion, I would much like to know, of the majority of apiarists on your side of the water? If not the Heddon, what style of hive is most favored in the United States?

S. A. DEACON.

Cape of Good Hope, S. A.

ANSWER.—So far as we know, Mr. Heddon has never expressed any change of opinion as to the value of his invention. Some others use it, and speak highly of it. The great majority, however, seem to set no great value on its peculiar features.

It is not a safe thing to say what may be the best hive for you, without some knowledge of the difference between your place and the States.

Your last question is more easily answered. Probably the great majority of the bee-keepers of the United States favor a hive not varying greatly from the original Langstroth. Just at present, what is called the Dovetail seems to take the lead. It takes its name from the dovetail corner-joints of the body of the hive itself. This makes probably the strongest corner-joint ever used in a hive, more free than any other from warping so as to leave open joints.

The frame in greatest favor is 17⅝x-8⅝, outside measure. A strong tide has set in, in favor of frames with fixed distances, that distance being generally 1⅜ inches from center to center.

The popular idea is to have 8-frame hives for comb honey, but there are not wanting for those who insist that 10 frames are better. For extracted honey the larger hive is preferred.

After having said thus much, it is only fair to say that there are different patterns of hives almost without number, a large number of bee-keepers seeming to feel that upon them is laid the duty of trying to invent something just a little different from anything previously in existence.

Bee-Keeping for Profit.—The second edition of Dr. Tinker's new book is now ready to send out. It gives his New Management complete, and three years of added experience in its use by himself and other bee-keepers. Several new illustrations have been added, besides much new matter in regard to the use of perforated zinc. Price, 25 cents, postpaid, or clubbed with the BEE JOURNAL for one year for $1.15.

Amerikanische Bienenzucht is the name of a bee-book printed in the German language, which we now have for sale. It is a hand-book on bee-keeping, giving the methods in use by the best American and German apiarists. Illustrated; 138 pages; price, postpaid, $1.00. It is just the book for our German bee-keepers. We club it with the BEE JOURNAL for one year, for $1.75.

CONDUCTED BY

Mrs. Jennie Atchley,

GREENVILLE, TEXAS.

How to Rear Drone-Bees.

MRS. ATCHLEY:—In making a hive queenless to rear drones, do you depend upon a laying-worker for the eggs? If so, do you give them drone-comb to lay in? Please answer through the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL. J. B. RYBURN.

Waxahachie, Texas.

Friend Ryburn, I fear you have a wrong conception of the idea. I place a drone-comb in the hive with one of my finest breeders, and when she has deposited it full of eggs, I take it out and place in a strong queenless colony to let them take care of them, as they will do so without destroying them, when if left in the hive with the breeder, the bees may keep them all right, and they may not, as in a little slack off in the honey-flow, they will likely destroy the drones. So if you wish to have them well taken care of without any risk, it is better to put them in a queenless colony, unless you intend to feed the colony to keep them going, which is expensive. The drones from a laying-worker I consider worthless. JENNIE ATCHLEY.

Visitors to Texas, Etc.

J. W. Taylor, of Ozan, Ark., is visiting me this week. He is looking at Texas, and is well pleased.

Bee-keepers coming to visit us have no hotel bills to pay. If they can live on what average bee-keepers eat, there will be no hotel bills.

I have also had other visitors, but Bro. Taylor is an old friend, and one of our queen-rearers. He has gone to my books and counted up the queens sent out to date, and they number a good many over 4,000 so far. JENNIE ATCHLEY.

Laying Several Eggs in a Cell.

MRS. ATCHLEY:—Please tell me what is the matter with a queen that lays three or four eggs in a cell? I had one that would walk around with two or three eggs hanging to her body, and then she would deposit them all in one cell; then, again, she would place herself in a cell as though she was laying, and when she pulled her body out of the cell there would not be any egg in the cell. Please tell me what was the matter with the queen.

Deland, Ills. A. W. RICHOLSON.

Friend R., the cause of the queen acting as you describe is a sign of weakness, and she was "no good" physically. She is weak, and has either been injured in the mails, or reared from an egg too old, which, most likely, causes the trouble to overtake such queens. Of course, such queens are worse than useless. JENNIE ATCHLEY.

Increasing the Number of Colonies.

One of my neighbors kindly loaned me a copy of the BEE JOURNAL for Feb. 23, 1893, in which I read an article purporting to be one of a series instructing young bee-keepers in the art of apiculture, but I think one of her statements is very misleading, viz.: The method she advises to increase the number of colonies.

She advises leaving the old queen on its usual stand, and taking the "divide" to some other part of the apiary. Now, all my experience in bee-matters has led me to believe that it is just the opposite course that should be pursued, as, if the old queen is left on the old stand, all—at least the major portion—of the bees that are taken away will naturally return to the old home, whereby leaving the queenless "divide" almost in a beeless condition, quite unable to rear a queen that will amount to anything; but if the old queen is removed with some hatching brood, and a goodly number of bees, there is not much danger of too many bees returning to the old home, as their natural instinct is to remain with the queen-mother.

I must apologize for sending in this letter, as I am not a subscriber to the BEE JOURNAL, but I thought as a beeman it would not come amiss.

H. KEMP.

Friend K., my plan of leaving the old queen on the old stand is the only plan

that I now use, after making thousands of colonies in that manner. Taking the old queen away is a great damage to the owner unless the owner has a laying queen to give both colonies; then I would prefer leaving the old queen at home, as she is full of eggs, and when moved off her working-force so nearly all leave and work at the old stand, that she has not the room she requires, consequently she wastes her eggs.

Then you see in the part set off, the bees are all young, and have their life before them, and can afford to be without a queen longer than the old colony, as the bees at the old colony are nearly all, or a good portion at least, have their lives spent, or soon pass out, leaving their colony weak too soon, or before a queen can be reared, etc.

Then when the old queen is left at home she only spreads herself, and soon has a booming colony, and imitates natural swarming as nearly as any plan I ever saw.

Then give the part set away on the new stand a queen-cell ready to hatch, or, if permitted to rear a queen, she will begin to lay just about the time the last bees hatch, and they march right off—young bees and young qneen—and soon make a powerful colony. Now, this is Southern bee-keeping, and works well for me, and I am not afraid to recommend it to my friends. But I will say to you, as I do to those I tell about my plan of introducing queens, this is only *my* way, and if you know a better one, by all means use it.

JENNIE ATCHLEY.

Alley's Queen-Rearing book, or "Thirty Years Among the Bees," gives the result of over a quarter-century's experience in rearing queen-bees, and describing the practical, every-day work. By Henry Alley. It contains an "Appendix," showing the improvements made in queen-rearing the last four years. Very latest work of the kind. Nearly 100 pages, with illustrations. Price, postpaid, 50 cents; or clubbed with BEE JOURNAL one year, for $1.30.

Capons and Caponizing, by Edward Warren Sawyer, M. D., Fanny Field, and others. It shows in clear language and illustrations all about caponizing fowls; and thus how to make the most money in poultry-raising. Every poultry-keeper should have it. Price, postpaid, 30 cents; or clubbed with BEE JOURNAL one year, for $1.10.

LANGSTROTH FUND.

[For years, bee-keepers have felt that they owed the Rev. L. L. Langstroth—the Father of American bee-culture—a debt that they can never very well pay, for his invention of the Movable-Frame Hive which so completely revolutionized bee-keeping throughout all the world. In order that his few remaining years may be made as happy and as comfortable as possible, we feel that we should undertake a plan by which those bee-keepers who consider it a privilege as well as a duty, might have an opportunity to contribute something toward a fund that should be gathered and forwarded to Father Langstroth as a slight token of their appreciation, and regard felt for him by bee-keepers everywhere. No amount above $1.00 is expected from any person at one time—but any sum, however large or small, we will of course receive and turn over to Father L. All receipts will be acknowledged here.—ED.]

List of Contributors.

Previously Reported	$11 25
S. H. Clark, Elwood, Iowa	40
J. W. Le Roy, Rio, Wis	1 00
Nothern Illinois Bee-Keepers' Association	6 25
Total	$18 90

CONVENTION DIRECTORY.

Time and place of meeting.

1893.

Sept. 6, 7.—Iowa State, at Des Moines, Iowa. J. W. Bittenbender, Sec., Knoxville, Iowa.

Sept. 13, 14.—Nebraska State, at Lincoln, Neb. L. D. Stilson, Sec., York, Neb.

Oct. 11, 12, 13.—North American (International), at Chicago, Ills. Frank Benton, Sec., Washington, D. C.

☞ **In order to have this table complete, Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of the time and the place of each future meeting.—THE EDITOR.**

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VICE-PRES.—J. E. Crane.....Middlebury, Vt.
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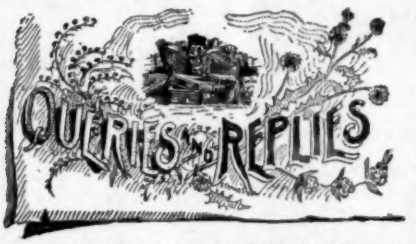


What About Self-Hiving Arrangements for Swarms?

Query 885.—1. What do you think of the practicability of self-hiving arrangements for swarms? 2. Are they worth the trouble and expense?—Subscriber.

1. I never tried them.—MRS. J. N HEATER.

1. I have never tried a self-hiver.—EUGENE SECOR.

1. I could tell better if I had tried them.—MRS. L. HARRISON.

2. No; there is too much to get out of order in those contrivances.—DADANT & SON.

1. I havn't tried them, but my faith is poor. 2. I don't believe they are.—S. I. FREEBORN.

1 and 2. I will let those who have had experience in that direction answer this.—JAS. A. STONE.

1. I don't believe they have come to stay, or will ever be in common use. 2. I doubt it.—A. J. COOK.

1 and 2. Opinions differ. It is perhaps too early yet to know exactly what is the truth.—C. C. MILLER.

1. I have never thought enough of them to try them. 2. I do not think they are.—EMERSON T. ABBOTT.

1 and 2. I am not posted in this direction, but I have my doubts as to self-hivers ever becoming practical.—J. M. HAMBAUGH.

1 and 2. I do not think any yet brought out are practicable. See my recent articles in *Review* and *Gleanings*.—R. L. TAYLOR.

1. I have not tested them to know for myself. 2. I think that they might be made useful under some circumstances.—JAMES A. GREEN.

1. I have never tried any, but I think, from the descriptions, that our inventors will get them to work. 2. Try them, and see.—P. H. ELWOOD.

1. I have not practiced it. 2. The most successful hiver that I know anything about is a good, reliable person on the ground at the right time.—H. D. CUTTING.

1 and 2. I do not use them, and do not think them worth the trouble and cost until better perfected than at present.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

1. I have never seen a self-hiving arrangement, but my opinion of their practicability is not very high. 2. I do not think they are.—M. MAHIN.

1. I consider it entirely practicable. 2. Another season is required to perfect the hiver, and when that is done it will be worth much more than the cost and trouble.—C. H. DIBBERN.

1 and 2.—For me I don't want any self-hivers. We have six apiaries this year, and by seeing all of them once a week, or once in ten days, we can attend to the swarming.—E. FRANCE.

1. Theory and practice do not always jingle the same time. 2. Like many other fixtures that have come during the last 20 years, on the apiarian stage—they will pass gradually off.—J. P. H. BROWN.

1. I do not use one. I believe in progress in anything, but I am now of the opinion that swarm-catchers will soon be a thing of the past, like the patent moth-catcher. I may be wrong. 2. Not to me.—MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY.

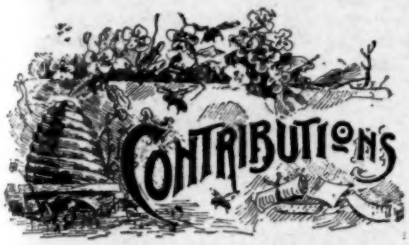
1. They are one of the new things. 2. I have been watching very closely for practical, and hence valuable, results, but those who do not desire to experiment had best wait awhile for a more thorough test.—J. H. LARRABEE.

1 and 2. I believe—yes, I am firmly convinced—that the self-hiver has a great future before it—not for the specialist in his own apiary, but for those who have not enough bees to afford watching them.—R. F. HOLTERMANN.

1 and 2. When I want a swarm, I want a swarm that can work with profitable results, and that means a strong swarm. No "self-hiver" will catch a full-sized swarm half of the time, and that is not practicability.—G. W. DEMAREE.

1 and 2. I don't believe in them; neither do I think we want any strains of "non-swarming bees." "Alley's queen and drone trap" will accomplish all that is claimed for the last patent, namely, "Langdon's," and is much simpler, and easier to use.—J. E. POND.

1. I am convinced of the practicability of this new arrangement. But the apiarist who is continually with his bees does not need it. 2. To those who are at certain times obliged to be away, it is without douht well worthy the expense. In such cases I would consider it a necessity.—WILL M. BARNUM



Experiments with Self-Hiving Arrangements for Swarms.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY ADRIAN GETAZ.

Last spring I decided to make 30 self-hivers, and experiment with them. In principle they were similar to the Pratt hivers of 1892; that is, a box placed before the hive and connected with the hive-entrance by a queen-excluding zinc, with a cone permitting the queen to come into the hives, but not to go back. In fact, they were merely queen-traps transformed into hives. Another zinc in the front prevents the queen from going out of the hives.

The first experience was a mishap. My apiaries are both out of town, and other business requires most of my time. So one of the apiaries was a week and a half without attention. When I got there the people living on the place told me that one colony had swarmed every day for several days, and finally the swarm went off. Investigation showed five dead queens in the hives. The theory is, that the old queen was killed by the first virgin hatched, this in turn by the next, and so on. Probably the last one was reared from an old larva, and, as usual in such cases, under sized, and went through the zinc with the swarm.

Well, other swarms came, and were found in the hives, or at least the queens were, with more or less bees. The thing to do is to move the old hive to a new stand, and leave the supers, about one-third of the brood, and the swarm, in a new hive on the old stand. Thus used, the self-hiver (except perhaps some particularity of construction) is certainly a success.

As a non-swarmer it is a failure. The Dadants say that if a swarm is returned to the parent hive two days after swarming, the swarming-fever being over, the queen will be permitted to destroy the cells, and the colony will not swarm, at least not until new preparations for swarming take place, if the circumstances are favorable to it. Henry Alley says that after a queen has been three days in the trap, she will be permitted to destroy the cells. Acting upon these suggestions, I waited two or three days, and then returned the swarms from the hivers to the old hives. I soon discovered that the majority were swarming again repeatedly, even twice a day. Investigation disclosed the fact that only one queen had destroyed all the cells, the others had only destroyed a part. This was not entirely unexpected. It is obvious that the swarms returned to the hive and left in the hiver are not in the same condition as those coming out with their queens, hived in a new hive, and then returned.

As to Henry Alley's assertion, I have to say that so many conditions influence the swarming of bees, that he may have succeeded under some circumstances, while he might have failed entirely at some other times.

Well, I then proceeded to destroy the queen-cells myself. Only 3 colonies quit swarming; all the others persisted in swarming as long as they had either a queen or some brood from which to rear one. I persisted in returning swarms and cutting cells, and the bees persisted in swarming again and again. Finally, four or five queens "turned up missing," probably were killed. Then I acknowledged myself "licked," as Mr. Hasty would put it. I divided some colonies, and removed the queens from some others.

Here I have gained an important point. None of the colonies that had been *hopelessly queenless* for some time (from three or four days to nearly two weeks) offered to swarm again. It seems that when they find themselves without queens or brood (except capped brood) they give up all swarming notions and go to work. After new queens were given, they still kept on working regularly.

One or two points in regard to the construction of the swarmer: Excepting the one mentioned at the beginning of this article, no queen, so far as I know, has passed through the zinc. The cone ought to be placed so that the bees are not likely to cluster on the end of it, for when there is a cluster, they cannot go in and out easily through the cluster.

The most serious objection to the self-hiver, as I had it, was that it interferes considerably with the ventilation of the hive. My hives have ample entrances, the zinc between the hive and hiver was

of large size (4x8 inches) with a space behind, and I thought that would be sufficient. The trouble is, that in hot days some of the workers, and whatever drones are in the hives, cluster on the zinc and cone, and thereby obstruct the holes, and not only interfere with the ventilation, but also with the going and coming of the honey-gatherers. The drones live in the hives several days, being fed there by the workers. This particularity may sometimes be turned to advantage. They can be easily destroyed, except those that may be wanted for fertilization of young queens. When the queens are out, the front zinc of the hiver can be removed, and the select drones permitted to come out. Closing the cone will effectually prevent the loss of a swarm while the front zinc is open.

About June 25th some of the colonies were so large, and the weather so hot, that I had to remove most of the zincs (between the hive and hivers) to insure better ventilation. I left the zincs in front of the hivers. Even thus reduced, the hiver was yet very useful, as no swarm could go off. As a general rule, any swarm going out and returning will try again very early the next day, if the weather is favorable. As a returning swarm hangs more or less outside the hiver for an hour or two after returning, by visiting the apiary between 10 a.m. and 12 o'clock, the apiarist can tell which hives have swarmed, and need attention.

After this experience, I doubt very much if the Langdon and Aikin devices to prevent swarming will work satisfactorily. I can only repeat what I said before, that it depends upon the circumstances; as to work always, I doubt it. The change of one hive to another where the bees are equally crowded could not abate the swarming fever. Mine swarmed from the hiver as well as they did from the old hive.

The revolving stand of B. Taylor was also a failure. The destruction of the queen-cells by the queens cannot do any more good than when done by the apiarist. It seems very difficult to prevent the swarming fever entirely. We can give plenty empty room, but not plenty empty comb as those who produce extracted honey do. Non-swarming colonies get to be very strong, and therefore more or less crowded.

Summing up, I see three points which conform to the teachings of our leading writers, viz.:

1st. The impossibility of preventing the swarming fever entirely, when producing comb honey. Of course the actual swarming could be prevented.

2nd. As long as the swarming-fever lasts, the colony is "no good," so far as gathering surplus is concerned.

3rd. The only ways to overcome the swarming fever are these:

a. Allowing swarming, or an equivalent, dividing. That is what Doolittle, Hutchinson, Heddon, etc., are doing. To obtain a surplus, they turn over to the swarm as much of the old force as possible, and whatever surplus is gathered already. This does not work very well here, for reasons that I will explain some other time. The old colony—well, I don't know, but by their reports, I suppose that most of the time the old colony is so weak that it dies the following winter or spring.

b. Removing the queen and cells, and not returning the queen (or another one) until the colony has been hopelessly queenless for some time. This is practiced by our most extensive and most successfnl comb honey producers, such as Manum, Aikin, Hetherington, Elwood, etc.

This will be my next year's experiment—as a help similar to the self-hiver, I want to try the following arrangement:

Have the hive so constructed that the entrance can lead either to the brood-nest or to the supers. Add to the hive, or rather to the brood-nest, a cone giving the necessary ventilation and permitting the bees to come out, but not to go back. At the opening of the honey-flow close the brood-nest, place a solid board between the brood-nest and the supers, so as to cut off entirely the communication between the two, and fix the entrance so as to send the whole force into the supers. Of course, the bees in the supers having neither queen nor brood will be hopelessly queenless and give up (?) any notion to swarm they may have. (Perhaps they will, and perhaps they won't.) The queen in the brood-nest with only young bees will destroy whatever queen-cells may be started. Three or four days later the board between the supers and brood-nest can be removed, and the usual brood-nest entrance opened again. The operation can be repeated again during the honey-flow, whenever swarming may occur.

I'll let you know in a year from now whether the above scheme will work or not. At any rate, I think if it fails as a non-swarmer, it will be splendid to start

work in the sections, and could also be used in lieu of contracting the brood-nest, if this is desired at the end of the season.

Knoxville, Tenn., July 10, 1893.

Season for Honey, and Other Bee-Notes.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY C. A. BUNCH.

The season for basswood and clover has been better than for years, but as a great many bees died during the fore-part of last March, the average bee-keeper was not in a position to reap the bountiful flow. At this writing we are having a honey-dearth, which came on earlier than usual, and bids fair to put a stop to a fall honey harvest, which is generally much better than the basswood and clover harvest; and should a heavy rain be delayed much longer, it means death to many bees that belong to bee-keepers (not bee-masters) who never feed their bees, but let them feed themselves or starve.

A fair sample of these bee-men was at my bee-yard awhile ago for pointers—not bee-stings—but points on bee-keeping, I supposed. To interest him I began to open the hive to show him my breeding queen and her bees, but, says he, "Don't open the hive, it might bother them." I assured him it would do no harm, and showed him the inside workings of several colonies; one, in particular, that had a row of queen-cells built along the under side of a small square stick instead of a piece of brood-comb, as given in Alley's "Handy-Book," and of course I had to tell him how it was done, and about that time he remembered his work at home. After presenting him with a few copies of the BEE JOURNAL, he went on his way rejoicing.

INTRODUCING QUEENS.

After trying the Simmins' method of introducing queens, I find that I am able to successfully introduce about 8 out of 10 queens, and I followed the method of introducing to the letter. To successfully introduce a queen from a distance, or one out of the hive from one to 16 days, I want the colony to be re-queened to be queenless three days, then introduce on the candy plan, and leave the colony undisturbed three days. This last plan of introducing is old and well known, but good enough for me. I usually test a colony as to their behavior toward a queen, by laying the cage on the frames of the colony to be introduced, a minute or two, and their actions will serve as a pointer.

Nye, Ind., Aug. 7, 1893.

Bean Honey—A New California Production.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY W. A. PRYAL.

California is about to come to the front with a sauce for the Bostonians to serve on their Sunday morning brown bread and beans. The State named is to be congratulated upon discovering something that will appeal not only to the cultured bean-eater's intellect, but to his stomach as well. Right here it might be remarked that the Golden State has been getting pretty close to the vital parts of the dwellers of the Hub. It was only a few years ago that it was ascertained that a couple of the lower counties of California could produce beans of unrivaled quality, and in enormous quantities. This struck the average Bostonian in the spot where he did the most thinking, that is in his pocket—we were going to say stomach, for some persons have been so unkind as to intimate that those people have their seat of wisdom in that part of their body.

When California beans began to flow into the pantries of the Bostonian housekeeper, she thanked the Californian grower for sending her such delicious beans; the only thing she regreted was that they were not sent to her already baked. Perhaps some day those wide-awake bean-producers of the Ventura hillsides and valleys will devise means to send the product of their ranches ready cooked, that they may be served upon the table at a moment's notice. In fact, we have heard that some of the fruit canneries in California have been putting up Boston brown bread and beans in cans, the contents being already cooked.

This is a step in the right direction; but there is now a prospect that the canneries, and for that matter the Boston baker, too, will no longer have to resort to vile molasses as a sweetening for the said beans, or the favorite bread that must necessarily go with the beans. This substitute is said to be one fit for the gods, and, consequently, fit for the Bostonian, as he believes that he stands close to, if not above, the ancient deities

of whom he is perfectly familiar through long reading of the ancient classics.

The reader will want to know what this sauce is that will so surely find favor with the advocates of beans and brains. It is this: Down in Ventura county, California, where the bean-vine grows, there the little busy bee gathers nectar from each opening bean-blossom, which it doth store in its waxen cell for the toothsome beans and the delicious brown bread of the Boston epicures. The California bean-flowers need no longer waste their sweetness upon the desert air, for the coy and winsome maiden with glasses perched upon her nose, will gladly welcome each drop of honey they give forth to the tiny honey-gatherers, that it may find a resting place in the bread and bean basket of the brain workers of the intellectual hub of the universe.

To Boston's indisputable array of "B's" must be added another. The list will now stand—Boston Brown Bread, Baked Beans, and Bees' Beautiful Honey. Perhaps it might have been well to have included "Brains" in the above list.

From a late issue of a Ventura paper, we learn that the Ventura bee-keeper is going to follow the bean-flowers up pretty closely with his bees. When the latter have gathered in the entire crop of sage honey, and there is nothing else for them to work upon in the location of the apiary, the apiarist will put his hives upon a wagon and transport them to the vicinity of a bean-ranch. There his bees will "turn themselves loose" among the bean-blossoms. Honey, bright and clear, will be the result. The apiarist will be pleased, and the dweller of the "Hub" will be delighted, when given the right sort of nectar to flavor his favorite dish.

Our attention was first called to bean honey at the World's Fair, where we saw some very nice samples in the California building; in fact, at that time, it was the only honey shown in that building that came from this State. This honey was both in the liquid form and in the comb. At first we were a little inclined to be skeptical about the honey being gathered from the source it was credited with coming from. Since then we have learned that bees do gather a fair quantity of this honey, and when all the conditions are favorable, a very large yield may be obtained.

Mr. M. H. Mendleson is going to try the experiment of moving several hundred colonies of his bees from the mountains to the valleys where the beans are raised. He is confident that he will get a good yield of bean honey. All the honey of this kind that he has seen is very fine, and as clear and white as could be desired.

Now, who will get up a corner in "bean" honey, and undertake to supply the Boston market? Boston will, no doubt, take all the honey that California can produce, and, like Oliver Twist, cry for more.

North Temescal, Calif.

Is Chilled Brood the Cause of Foul Brood Among Bees?

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY A. D. KELLER.

I am one of those that did not at first think of answering Mr. McEvoy's article on page 594 of the BEE JOURNAL for May. I presume the question should be thoroughly discussed, as a large number of bee-keepers believe as Mr. McEvoy.

I have kept bees ever since 1870, and have had as many as 700 colonies at one time; I also have been foul brood inspector for several years, and I will say that I have not seen a case of foul brood which originated from chilled or dead brood.

I have experimented considerable with dead brood, by letting it get rotten in warm weather, and then I gave the combs to the bees to be cleaned. I have never seen any foul brood (*bacillus alvei*) derived therefrom, but I have seen something that had a similarity to it.

By giving combs containing dead brood to the bees, they do not always absolutely cleanse them of all germs (not *bacillus alvei*), consequently a few of the larvæ would become diseased, and die, but the first crop of brood only.

It is impossible for Mr. McEvoy's remedy to cure *bacillus alvei*, as the spores are sure to be in every place wherever a bee can place its foot inside of the hive, therefore his remedy is not specific.

I always used Prof. Frank R. Cheshire's remedy, or some of its modifications, which I know is sure and infallible. Mr. Cheshire's remedy may be found on page 644, of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL for 1884.

Firth, Nebr.

[As Prof. Cheshire's method of cure is too long to republish, we would say that we have it in pamphlet form, and can mail a copy to any one interested, for 10 cents.—ED.]

Langdon Non-Swarming Attachment at Michigan's Apiary.

As Reported in the "Bee-Keepers' Review"

BY R. L. TAYLOR, APIARIST.

As stated in my former article, five of these attachments were adjusted to hives on the 22nd day of June last, and that the conditions may be understood as fully as possible, I must explain that at that date swarming to a moderate extent had been going on in the apiary for a week or ten days; the hives employed also varied in capacity, three sizes being used, viz.: the single story, new Heddon, double story new Heddon, and the eight-frame dovetailed. The hives, of course, are used in pairs, and for convenience each pair is designated by a number. Nos. 1 and 5 were each composed of one double and one single Heddon; No. 2 of two single Heddon; No. 3 of two double Heddon, and No. 4 of two dovetailed hives.

I wish to explain here also once for all that in this line of experiments wherever a swarm issued it was never returned to the hive from which it came but always to the other member of the pair.

The details of the swarming are as follows: No. 1 cast a swarm June 24th, 28th, 30th and July 4th and 10th—five times; No. 2 cast a swarm June 23rd, 24th, 25th and 26th and July 1st, 4th and 7th—seven times; No. 3 cast a swarm but once—on June 30th; No. 4 cast a swarm June 27th and July 2nd—twice; No. 5 cast a swarm June 24th, 26th and 29th and July 4th and 10th—five times. In other words, No. 1, consisting of one single and one double-story Heddon hive, swarmed five times—three times from the single story and twice from the double story; No. 2, consisting of two single story Heddon hives, swarmed seven times; No. 3, consisting of two two-story Heddon hives, swarmed once only; No. 4, consisting of two dovetailed hives, swarmed twice; and No. 5, consisting of one single story and one double story Heddon, swarmed five times—three times from the single and twice from the double story, that is, it appears, the larger the hive the longer are the bees able to resist the inclination to swarm.

Michigan Experiment Apiary, at Lapeer, Conducted by Mr. Taylor.

It will be observed that there was little opportunity to operate the attachment for the purpose of throwing the bees from one hive to the other (except as swarms issued) and it was only practiced in the cases of Nos. 3 and 4—twice in No. 3 and once in No. 4. In each of these this was done on June 26th, the fourth day after the attachment was put

in place. But it will be noticed that the very next day, June 27th, No. 4 cast a swarm, and No. 3 cast a swarm on the 30th, indicating that when other conditions are favorable very little if any preparation at all in the way of queen-cells is required before the bees feel at liberty to swarm.

One hive of No. 2 lost its queen, which was replaced by a fine young queen which had been laying but a few days, yet this young queen came out with a swarm within four days, and within a week was lost, apparently destroyed by the bees.

As might have been expected under such circumstances the bees of these colonies did not do very good work, but those that did the most swarming did fully as well as the others. As I estimate it, these bees yielded about 65 to 75 per cent. of the surplus they would have yielded had they been managed in the ordinary way. What especially surprised me was the remarkable slowness shown by these strong colonies in capping their surplus honey.

It was always very evident that the desire to swarm was thoroughly eradicated from the colony from which the bees had been thrown—this was frequently very soon shown by the casting out of immature drones. I could not see that worker-brood suffered materially.

Why was it that the inclination to swarm was not also removed for a time from the working force of the two colonies thrown together into a hive in which there was no beginning of preparations for swarming?

I have hereinbefore remarked that it appears that the larger the hive the longer the bees are able to resist the inclination to swarm. But the size of a hive is a relative matter and the largest one becomes small if too many colonies are united and put into it.

The theory of the Langdon attachment is that the prevention of the *completion* of the usual course of preparation for swarming common in normal cases will prevent swarming in all cases. The mere statement reveals the fault in the reasoning. The attachment answers completely to the theory, but the theory is wrong. It is not an infrequent occurrence that swarms issue without leaving a sign that there had been a thought of preparation, and this is only on the line between the normal and the abnormal. If several swarms are out at once and unite and are hived after an unequal division, the colony having an unduly large proportion of the bees will generally persist in the desire to swarm. That condition is abnormal and creates dissatisfaction. To unite the working force of two colonies when the swarming fever is in the air is highly abnormal, and if this is done, this abnormal condition must be provided against if swarming is to be prevented. At least the result of the experiments thus far seems to point that way.

If a course of operations creates abnormal conditions it should be required to make efficient provision to cope with those conditions.

Lapeer, Mich., July 27, 1893.

Honey from Button-Willow, Transferring, Etc.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY W. A. FEE.

I have read the reports of the honey-flow in the BEE JOURNAL each week. As for this part of the country, it has been very poor, so far; very little surplus, mostly from white clover. Bees are now working on button-willow. I have 35 colonies which are working across the Ohio river, the willow being about two miles from my apiary. The honey they are getting is very clear—I think it is equal to white clover.

SUGAR SYRUP FOR WINTERING.

I wintered my bees on granulated sugar syrup last winter, and did not lose a colony. I gave them 20 pounds each, and made a syrup of five parts sugar and two parts water mixed in a tub and boiled with a steam jet for a boiler, thus melting a large quantity in a few minutes, and no danger of burnt syrup.

TRANSFERRING BEES.

I have done a good deal of transferring from box-hives in the last year, and have found a way that beats "drumming," every time.

To get the bees out of the box, I use a forcing-box made with wire-screen at the top, and open at the bottom except some strips across for the bees to crawl up on. I next take the box-hive and make an opening in the top for the bees to come out of, fasten the forcing-box on, screen up, stop up cracks around the box, and then I am ready to oust the bees.

I set the hive up on something, letting the edge project a little; then I take a

good, strong smoker and give a few light puffs of smoke under the box to start the bees up. As soon as I see them start out into the screened box, I just roll in the smoke, and in a few minutes every bee will be in the screened box, as the smoke passes through the screen and does not bother them, as the case would be in a tight box.

The BEE JOURNAL is a great help to me, as each week it has something new and interesting to me.

Rockport, Ind., July 28, 1893.

☞ Do not write anything for publication on the same sheet of paper with business matters, unless it can be torn apart without interfering with either part of the letter.

A Very Good Season.

The season has been very good so far. I have taken 900 pounds of honey from 11 colonies. Honey sells readily at 15 and 20 cents per pound. The most of my bees were run for queen-rearing.

MRS. A. A. SIMPSON.

Swarts, Pa., Aug. 12, 1893.

Looks Like White Sage.

We have a plant in this country that is called "wild sage." I send a sample of it, and would like to know through the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL if it is the same as the white sage in California. W. H. MOSES.

Spanish Camp, Tex.

[It looks like white sage, but the sample sent was too little to identify it.—ED.]

Bees Did Well in June.

Bees did very well in this locality in June, and part of July, then the clover dried and turned brown, and left the second set of sections half finished. There will be no flow from heart's-ease this fall, as there is none in the corn or stubbles, or in the creek bottoms, where it seldom fails; and if bees gather enough to stimulate breeding for the coming season, it will be all I can expect. GEO. POINDEXTER.

Kenney, Ills., Aug. 12, 1893.

About 200 Lbs. from Two Colonies.

I have 7 strong colonies of Italian bees in Langstroth hives. I did not keep an account, but I took about 100 pounds of honey from each of the two strongest, but they did not cast a swarm. It is very dry, and they have done nothing for some time.

It is a shame to treat bees as two of my neighbors do. They each have 8 or 9 colonies, but have not given them any attention for three years, consequently they have no honey, but cross bees.

MARGARET S. SWAIN.

Pendleton, Ind., July 30, 1893.

Honey a Short Crop.

Honey will be a short crop here. The forepart of the season promised well, but the weather cut us short then, and now while buckwheat is in bloom it is so dry that it does not yield honey yet, and I fear I will have the smallest average per colony that I have ever had. N. D. WEST.

Middleburgh, N. Y., Aug. 14, 1893.

Bees Did Just Tolerably Well.

I have about 30 colonies of bees, and they have done just tolerably well. The honey is very fine. I lost about 10 colonies last winter out of 25. A year ago I lost about 40 colonies, and saved 4. I am beginning to gain a little now, and hope that I will be more successful in the future.

W. L. MITCHELL.

Erie, Ills., Aug. 2, 1893.

Bees Doing Very Well.

My bees are doing very well this season. I had 29 colonies, spring count, have increased them to 47, and secured 1,000 pounds of nice white honey, mostly in the comb. I like the hybrid bees, and think they are tougher, gather more honey, and can't be robbed so easily. They are as cross as bears, but I can get along with that if I have one of the Bingham smokers.

CHAS. B. ALLEN.

Central Square, N. Y., Aug. 4, 1893.

Young Bees Preferred for Winter.

I have seen it in print somewhere, that old bees winter as well, if not better, than young bees. I do not now remember who the writer was, but I do know that his idea on this subject is not in accord with my experience.

In my experience I have invariably found that colonies that reared brood latest, everything else being equal, wintered best. This is in accord with natural laws. Bees, as well as other animals or insects, that are worn out with age and toil, cannot withstand a long, dreary winter as well as younger ones that are in the prime and vigor of life.

In the management of my bees I make it a point to see that all queens are laying at

the time for the brood to make young, thrifty bees for the beginning of winter. If I have a queen that from any cause has ceased laying, or is not laying sufficiently, I give her colony a few stimulating feeds, and get her to work. This has been my practice ever since I have been keeping bees on the modern plan, and I challenge any man to show a better record in wintering than I can show.

Sneedville, Tenn. H. F. COLEMAN.

New Theory About the Queen's Will.

As the compression theory is pretty well exploded, I will advance a new one made from the remnants of various theories. The drone organs are so constructed that they cannot be pulled away from the queen, and are detached from the drone and are retained by the queen, thus becoming a part of her body, and consequently she is both male and female, and can replenish the colony in early spring without the expense of wintering drones. The same theory applies to bumble-bees, wasps, and various other tribes of the bee-family. The bumble-bee males are not reared until late in the season, just in time to transport the male organs in the female before they hibernate for the winter.

I have never been able to see any difference in the brood-cells, hence the queen must have the power to lay the kind of eggs wanted. As to the drones being affected by fertilization, I can't see how that is to be determined until we have complete control of the fertilization of the queen. I would like to hear some of the "big guns" go off on this theory. RUFUS WILLIAMS.

Crescent, O. T.

Two Queens in One Cell.

I see on page 140, a report of D. L. McKean in regard to finding a queen and worker in the same cell. About two weeks ago a friend of mine had a swarm come off, and he sent for me to go and cut out the queen-cells, and put the bees back into the old hive. I cut about seven or eight, besides finding five queens with the swarm. I saved three of the queens, and threw the cells on the ground.

Another man was present (a shoemaker of our town), and he picked up some of the cells and took them into the shop. A customer, coming in soon, his attention was called to the cells, and not having seen anything of the kind before, the shoemaker cut some of them open to show them. In one of the cells they found *two* well developed queens—one slightly smaller than the other, but both dead, but did not appear to have been dead very long. He says there was no partition between them. Is there a similar case on record? If not, let the learned ones explain. I told them I thought I could see a "sell," but they claim "a true bill." Who says this is not a progressive age? T. C. KELLEY.

Slippery Rock, Pa.

A Beginner's Experience with Bees.

I bought 3 colonies last winter, and had them delivered to me in the spring. One colony is pure Italians, one hybrids, and one blacks. I made a division from my blacks, but not having any experience with bees, I made a failure instead of a success. I could not get a queen-cell started. Either of my colonies have not swarmed thus far.

I bought a swarm about a month ago, and hived them myself; they were about 10 feet from the ground in the top of an orange-tree. With a bucket of water and a turkey wing, I went up the tree and wet the cluster, then cut the limb off and carried them down, and put them into a hox which I have for the purpose. This was my first attempt. I suppose I did very well. I did not get a sting.

My bees have not done very well in storing honey, but I hope they will do better next year.

I am very much pleased with the BEE JOURNAL. It gives so much good advice, that I don't see how any bee-man can get along without it. CHAS. S. CURRY.

Venice, Fla., Aug. 9, 1893.

Convention Notices.

IOWA.—The eleventh annual convention of the Iowa State Bee-Keepers' Association will be held in their tent at Des Moines, Iowa, on Sept. 6th and 7th. All friends and bee-keepers are cordially invited. For programme write to the Secretary.

J. W. BITTENBENDER, Sec.

Knoxville, Iowa.

INTERNATIONAL.—The North American Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its 24th annual convention on Oct. 11, 12 and 13, 1893, in Chicago, Ills. Not only is every bee-keeper in America, whether a member of the society or not, invited to be present, but a special invitation is extended to friends of apiculture it every foreign land, FRANK BENTON, Sec.

Washington, D. C.

NEBRASKA.—The yearly meeting of the Nebraska State Bee-Keepers' Association will be held at Lincoln, Neb., on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, Sept. 13th and 14th, 1893. This will be held in connection with our State Fair, and we would be pleased to have Eastern visitors meet with us. One-way excursion rates will be given on all railroads from Chicago to Lincoln, at that time. Let every bee-keeper call and get acquinted with the Nebraska honey-producers, whose headquarters are always open.

York, Nebr. L. D. STILSON, Sec.

Bee-Keeping for Profit.—We have just issued a revised and enlarged edition of Dr. Tinker's book, called "Bee-Keeping for Profit." It details his most excellent "new system, or how to get the largest yields of comb and extracted honey." The book contains 80 pages in all, and is illustrated. Price, postpaid, 25 cents, or clubbed with the BEE JOURNAL for one year, for $1.15.

Honey & Beeswax Market Quotations.

Rules for Grading.

The following rules for grading honey were adopted by the North American Bee-Keepers' Association, at its last meeting, and, so far as possible, quotations are made according to these rules:

FANCY.—All sections to be well filled; combs straight, of even thickness, and firmly attached to all four sides; both wood and comb unsoiled by travel-stain, or otherwise; all the cells sealed except the row of cells next the wood.

No. 1.—All sections well filled, but combs uneven or crooked, detached at the bottom, or with but few cells unsealed; both wood and comb unsoiled by travel-stain or otherwise.

In addition to this the honey is to be classified according to color, using the terms white, amber and dark. That is, there will be "fancy white," "No. 1 dark," etc.

The following Quotations are for Saturday, Aug. 19, 1893:

CHICAGO, ILL.—Comb honey is coming in plentifully—most of it fancy and No. 1 white. White extracted scarce with plenty of inquiry for same. We quote: Fancy white, 16c.; No. 1 white 15c.; fancy amber, 14c.; No. 1 amber, 14c. Extracted, white, 8c.; amber, 7c Beeswax doesn't move at any price. J. A. L.C.

CHICAGO, ILL.—The receipts of honey are quite liberal; the very best grades are bringing 15@16c. The demand just now is hardly equal to the supply, and we are receiving many inquiries concerning the market. We are of the opinion that it will not be any higher but may go lower, as money is very scarce and people seem to economize in the way of honey purchases. The darker grades are not meeting with any demand. Nearly all of the new honey is of very fine quality. Extracted is bringing from 5@7c., according to color, flavor and style of package. Beeswax is very dull at about 20@22c.
R. A. B. & Co.

CHICAGO, ILL.—Honey this year is being placed on the market earlier than last season, but the demand is restricted and will be light until small fruits are out of the market, and with the prospect of a large crop, buyers will be particular as to quality, and the best will find ready sale upon arrival. No. 1 comb, 16c Extracted, as to quality, 5@7c.
Beeswax—22@24c. S. T. F. & Co.

KANSAS CITY, MO.—We quote: No. 1 white, 16@17c.; No. 1 amber, 14@15c.; fancy dark, 12@13c.; No. 1 dark, 10@12c. Extracted, 6½@7c.; amber, 5½@6c.; dark, 5c. Beeswax, 17@18c. C.-M. C. Co.

CINCINNATI, O.—Prices for comb honey are nominal, with small lots of new on the market. The best sells at 14@16c. Extracted honey brings 5@8c. Demand is slow from manufacturers; arrivals fair.
Beeswax—Demand fair, at 20@23c for good to choice yellow. Supply good. C. F. M. & S.

BOSTON, MASS.—Fancy white, 16@18c.; No. 1 white, 15@16c. Extracted, white, 7@8c.; amber, 6½@7c. Beeswax, 25@28c. B. & R.

ALBANY, N. Y.—Enquiry for honey improving and have made some good sales. Fancy white 16@17c.; No. 1 white 14@15c.; mixed, 13@14c.; No. 2 mixed, 12@13c.; fancy dark, 12@13c.; No. 1 dark, 11@12c. Extracted, white, 7½@8c.; amber, 7@7½c.; dark, 6½@7c. Beeswax slow at 26@28c. H. R. W.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Our market remains very quiet. Extracted continues to arrive freely; the market is well supplied, and the demand is light. We quote: Southern, common, 60c. per gallon; fair to choice, 65@75c. per gallon; California, 6@6½c. per lb. No new comb honey on the market as yet. Beeswax, gradually declining; 25c. for good yellow at present. H. B. & S.

KANSAS CITY, MO.—Stock very light of comb honey. No extracted on the market. Demand is good. We quote: Fancy white, 17@18c.; No. 1 white, 15@16c.; fancy amber, 14@15c.; No. 1 amber, 14c.; fancy dark, 13@14c.; No. 1 dark, 13c. Extracted, white, 7@7½c.; amber, 6½@7c.; dark, 5½c. H. & B.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.—There is quite an active demand this week for honey, especially white comb honey in 1-lb. sections. Dark is very slow sale. Stock on hand in this market is very light. Receipts have not been enough to supply trade during the past 10 days. Fancy white conb honey, 18@20c.; No. 1 white, 17c.; fancy amber, 16c.; No. 1 amber, 14c.; fancy dark, 12c.; No. 1 dark, 10c. Extracted California 60-lb. kegs, 9c. Beeswax, unsalable. J. A. S. & Co.

List of Honey and Beeswax Dealers,

Most of whom Quote in this Journal.

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J. A. LAMON, 44 and 46 So. Water St.
R. A. BURNETT & Co., 161 South Water Street.

New York, N. Y.

F. I. SAGE & SON, 183 Reade Street.
HILDRETH BROS. & SEGELKEN, 28 & 30 West Broadway.
CHAS. ISRAEL & BROS., 110 Hudson St.

San Francisco, Calif.

SCHACHT, LEMCKE & STEINER, 10 Drumm St.

Minneapolis, Minn.

J. A. SHEA & Co., 14 & 16 Hennepin Avenue.

Kansas City, Mo.

HAMBLIN & BEARSS, 514 Walnut Street.
CLEMOMS-MASON COM. CO., 521 Walnut St.

Albany, N. Y.

H. R. WRIGHT, 326 & 328 Broadway.

Hamilton, Ills.

CHAS. DADANT & SON.

Cincinnati, Ohio.

C. F. MUTH & SON, cor. Freeman & Central avs.

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